

TABLE 42. Employment sector of doctorate recipients with definite postgraduation U.S. employment commitments, by broad field of study:
Selected years, 1989–2009

Employment commitments and sector	Total	Life sciences ^a	Physical sciences ^b	Social sciences ^c	Engineering	Education	Humanities	Other non-S&E fields
Number								
All U.S. employment commitments								
1989	15,176	1,562	1,771	2,939	1,777	3,940	1,804	1,383
1994	15,141	1,440	1,673	2,844	1,712	3,992	2,067	1,413
1999	16,266	1,681	2,004	2,886	2,264	3,788	2,392	1,251
2004	14,869	1,565	1,540	2,612	1,726	3,697	2,400	1,329
2009	16,766	1,979	2,220	2,833	2,526	3,629	2,095	1,484
Percent ^d								
Academe								
1989	51.3	51.0	41.2	49.4	29.9	45.0	80.2	76.9
1994	51.2	49.2	39.2	52.7	19.6	44.3	84.4	74.0
1999	48.8	47.5	32.9	51.5	14.1	47.2	81.9	73.5
2004	56.1	52.3	44.3	60.4	22.0	50.2	84.0	76.0
2009	51.7	50.0	35.0	62.5	14.5	50.1	84.9	78.5
Government								
1989	10.1	15.0	9.4	14.3	11.9	9.8	2.7	4.1
1994	8.6	14.9	9.0	12.0	12.9	6.4	2.1	5.3
1999	7.5	12.7	7.7	11.6	9.5	5.3	2.1	4.5
2004	7.4	14.2	8.1	10.8	10.6	4.0	2.3	5.9
2009	6.8	12.3	7.2	10.0	8.7	3.8	1.7	3.6
Industry/business ^e								
1989	21.1	25.2	47.5	17.0	55.5	6.9	5.3	8.6
1994	21.1	24.9	47.5	16.1	64.6	6.2	4.4	9.8
1999	27.5	29.8	56.0	20.4	74.2	6.9	6.4	14.0
2004	18.9	23.6	42.0	13.6	61.8	3.9	4.1	10.2
2009	25.6	25.2	52.3	14.9	72.7	4.0	3.4	10.4
Nonprofit								
1989	6.8	6.5	1.5	13.6	1.7	6.0	7.0	8.4
1994	6.5	8.3	2.0	12.6	1.9	5.2	5.4	8.8
1999	5.4	7.3	1.9	10.6	1.6	4.4	5.5	6.2
2004	5.7	7.0	3.9	9.6	4.4	4.1	5.0	5.8
2009	4.8	7.8	2.5	7.2	2.1	4.6	4.9	4.0
Other/unknown ^f								
1989	10.6	2.2	0.5	5.6	1.0	32.3	4.8	2.0
1994	12.5	2.7	2.3	6.6	1.0	37.8	3.8	2.0
1999	10.8	2.7	1.4	5.9	0.6	36.2	4.1	1.8
2004	11.9	3.0	1.7	5.6	1.2	37.8	4.6	2.2
2009	11.2	4.6	3.0	5.4	1.9	37.5	5.1	3.5

^a Includes agricultural sciences/natural resources, biological/biomedical sciences, and health sciences.

^b Includes mathematics and computer and information sciences.

^c Includes psychology.

^d Percentages are based on number reporting definite employment commitments in the United States.

^e Includes doctorate recipients who indicated self-employment.

^f "Other" is mainly composed of elementary and secondary schools.

NOTE: Due to rounding, the sum of percentages may not equal to 100.

SOURCE: NSF/NIH/USED/USDA/NEH/NASA, 2009 Survey of Earned Doctorates.